



Department of Health
Agency of Human Services



Vermont Department of Health Announces \$1.1 Million Grant Award to Improve Health Outcomes

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BURLINGTON – The Vermont Department of Health announced today that it will receive a \$1.1 million per year for five years grant award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to strengthen the delivery of public health services.

The Vermont grant is part of a \$42.5 million nationwide investment in public health made possible by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590), appropriated to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and awarded by the CDC.

The CDC's "Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Improved Health Outcomes" grant will enable the Health Department to better utilize health data to conduct community health assessments and implement best practices for health promotion and disease prevention.

The grant will also enable the Health Department to link public health data with electronic health records at provider offices statewide.

"We're delighted with the award – it provides us with a real opportunity to strengthen public health programs that make a difference in the health and daily lives of Vermonters," said Health Commissioner Wendy Davis, MD. "Achieving meaningful health reform is not just about reforming the health care delivery system, but must include sincere and sustained attention to effective population health and community-based prevention strategies."

The grant will also strengthen the Health Department's connection to the state's health care reform initiative, Vermont's Blueprint for Health. The Blueprint provides the information, tools and support that Vermonters with chronic conditions need to manage their own health – and that doctors need to keep their patients healthy.

The goal of the funding is to provide for expanded and sustained national investment in prevention and public health programs to improve health and help lower private and public sector health care costs.

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